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# SANITARY LEGISLATION.

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## STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

### NEW YORK.

**Tuberculosis—County hospitals for care of patients affected with—Admission and care of patients (chap. 239, acts of 1912, adopted Apr. 9, 1912).**

SEC. 1. Subdivision 5 of section 48 (see p. 70, Public Health Manual) and section 49-a (see p. 73, Public Health Manual) of chapter 16 of the laws of 1909, entitled "An act in relation to counties constituting chapter 11 of the consolidated laws," as added by chapter 341 of the laws of 1909, are hereby amended to read respectively as follows:

"5. Shall receive into the hospital, under the general direction of the board of managers, in the order of application, any person found to be suffering from tuberculosis in any form who is entitled to admission thereto under the provisions of this chapter; and shall also receive persons from other counties as hereinafter provided. Said superintendent shall cause to be kept proper accounts and records of the admission of all patients, their name, age, sex, color, martial condition, residence, occupation, and place of last employment.

"SEC. 49-a. *Maintenance of patients in the county in which hospital is situated.*—Wherever a patient has been admitted to said hospital from the county in which the hospital is situated, the superintendent shall cause such inquiry to be made as he may deem necessary, as to his circumstances, and of the relatives of such patient legally liable for his support. If he find that such patient or said relatives are able to pay for his care and treatment in whole or in part, an order shall be made directing such patient or said relatives to pay to the treasurer of such hospital for the support of such patient a specified sum per week, in proportion to their financial ability, but such sum shall not exceed the actual per capita cost of maintenance. The superintendent shall have the same power and authority to collect such sum from the estate of the patient, or his relatives legally liable for his support, as is possessed by an overseer of the poor in like circumstances. If the superintendent find that such patient or said relatives are not able to pay, either in whole or in part, for his care and treatment in such hospital, the same shall become a charge upon the county. When any indigent patient shall have been admitted to any such hospital as a resident of the county in which the hospital is located, and it shall be found that such patient has not acquired a settlement within such county under the provisions of the poor law, the superintendent of such hospital shall collect from the county, city, or town in which such patient has a settlement, the cost of his maintenance in such hospital, or may in his discretion return such patient to the locality in which he has a settlement.

**Sewer connections—Contracts with other municipalities (chap. 259, an act adopted Apr. 4, 1912).**

SEC. 276. *Contracts with other municipalities, sewer districts, etc.*—The board of sewer commissioners may contract for the connection of the sewers thereof with the sewers of another village, or of a town, or city, or of a sewer district established under the

provisions of article 11 of the town law or of chapter 348 of the laws of 1901 and the laws supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof; or jointly with such other village or a town or city or sewer district established as aforesaid may construct, maintain, operate, or use sewers, outlets, or disposal works; or may contract with any such other village, or a town, or city, or sewer district established as aforesaid for the right to construct and maintain through any such other village, town, or city, or sewer district established as aforesaid an outlet sewer, including the right to acquire real property for such sewer outlet, which thereupon may be acquired either at private sale or by condemnation as authorized by this act. But no such contract shall be made unless a proposition therefor be adopted, stating the maximum expense.

**Surgical operations for the prevention of procreation—To be performed upon certain criminals, the incurable insane, etc. (chap. 445, acts of 1912).**

SEC. 1. Article 18 of chapter 49 of the laws of 1909, entitled "An act in relation to the public health, constituting chapter 45 of the consolidated laws," as renumbered article 19 by section 5 of chapter 128 of the laws of 1911, is hereby made article 20 thereof, and sections 350 and 351 of such chapter are hereby renumbered sections 360 and 361, respectively.

SEC. 2. Such chapter is hereby amended by inserting therein a new article, to be article 19 thereof, to read as follows:

*ART. 19.—Operations for the prevention of procreation.*

Sec.

350. Board of examiners; compensation and expenses.

351. General powers and duties of the board; persons to be operated upon.

352. Appointment of counsel to persons to be operated upon.

353. Unauthorized and illegal operations.

SEC. 350. *Board of examiners; compensation and expenses.*—Immediately after the passage of this act, the governor shall appoint one surgeon, one neurologist, and one practitioner of medicine, each with at least 10 years' experience in the actual practice of his profession, for a term of five years, to be known as the board of examiners of feeble-minded, criminals, and other defectives, which board is hereby created. The compensation of the members of such board shall be \$10 per diem for each day actually engaged in the performance of the duties of the board, and their actual and necessary traveling expenses. Any vacancies occurring in said board shall be filled by appointment of the governor for the unexpired term.

SEC. 351. *General powers and duties of the board; persons to be operated upon.*—It shall be the duty of the said board to examine into the mental and physical condition and the record and family history of the feeble-minded, epileptic, criminal, and other defective inmates confined in the several State hospitals for the insane, State prisons, reformatories, and charitable and penal institutions in the State, and if in the judgment of the majority of said board procreation by any such person would produce children with an inherited tendency to crime, insanity, feeble-mindedness, idiocy or imbecility and there is no probability that the condition of any such person so examined will improve to such an extent as to render procreation by any such person advisable, or if the physical or mental condition of any such person will be substantially improved thereby, then said board shall appoint one of its members to perform such operation for the prevention of procreation as shall be decided by said board to be most effective.

The criminals who shall come within the operation of this law shall be those who have been convicted of the crime of rape or of such succession of offenses against the criminal law as in the opinion of the board shall be deemed to be sufficient evidence of confirmed criminal tendencies.

SEC. 352. *Appointment of counsel to person to be operated upon.*—The board of examiners shall apply to any judge of the supreme court or county judge of the county